

REMARKS

Amendments to claims 29 and 31 are for the purpose of clarifying what Applicants regard as the invention. Support for new claims 42-51 can be found throughout the specification. No new matter has been added.

I. Claim rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 29

Claims 2, 4, 9, 13, 29-31, and 33-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,136,015 (Kurz). Claims 2-4, 10, and 29-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,304,194 (Chee). Applicants respectfully note that in order to sustain a rejection under § 102, each of the claimed elements must be found, either expressly or inherently, in the cited reference.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for providing diagrams to clarify the basis of the rejections. Claim 29 has been amended to recite a vaso-occlusive device having a member, the member having a first curvilinear portion and a linear portion, wherein the first curvilinear portion resembles a parabola, with *an end segment of the first curvilinear portion connecting to, and forming an angle with, the linear portion* when the member is in a relaxed configuration. Kurz does not disclose or suggest such a vaso-occlusive device. Rather, Kurz discloses a vaso-occlusive device having a linear portion and a curvilinear portion that resembles a parabola, wherein an end segment of the curvilinear portion connecting to a linear portion forms a substantially straight line with the linear portion (see figure 3). As such, the end segment of the curvilinear portion is substantially parallel to the linear portion, and does not form an angle with the linear portion. For at least the foregoing reason, claim 29 and its dependent claims are believed allowable over Kurz.

Chee also does not disclose or suggest the above limitation. Similar to Kurz, Chee discloses a vaso-occlusive device having a curvilinear portion and a relatively straight portion, wherein an end segment of the curvilinear portion connecting to the linear portion forms a substantially straight line with the linear portion (see figure 10). As such, the end segment of the curvilinear portion is substantially parallel to the linear portion, and does not form an angle with the linear portion. For at least the foregoing reason, claim 29 and its dependent claims are believed allowable over Chee.

Claims 42-51

New claims 42-51 are believed allowable over Kurz and Chee for at least the reason that neither reference discloses or suggests the vaso-occlusive device, as recited in independent claim 42.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, all remaining claims are believed allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If, the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, please contact the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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